

10 (i) and a further determined released CO₂ amount (VCO₂) and value for the quantity indicative of end capillary blood CO₂ content to determine the functional cardiac output of the subject using a non-differential form of the Fick equation.

Claim 9 has been amended as follows:

9. (amended) The method according to claim 1 further including the steps of:

13 determining a further value for the quantity indicative of the end capillary blood CO₂ content for breathing of the subject in the first breathing condition;

13 forming a relationship between the value for the quantity indicative of the end capillary blood CO₂ content for breathing in the first breathing condition used in the regression analysis and the value obtained by extrapolating the regression line in step (i); and

10 applying the relationship to the further determined value for a quantity indicative of the end capillary blood CO₂ content to provide a new value for the value which was obtained by the extrapolation of the regression line in step (i).

Claim 12 has been amended as follows:

12. (amended) The method according to claim 9 further including the steps of:

13 determining further values for the amount of CO₂ released from the circulatory system of the subject (VCO₂^N) for breathing of the subject in the first breathing condition; and

10 using the further determined released CO₂ amount (VCO₂¹), the further determined value for a quantity indicative of the end capillary blood CO₂ content, and the new value for the value which was obtained by extrapolation of the regression line in a non-differential form of the Fick equation to determine the functional cardiac output (FCO) of the subject.

A3
[Claim 13 has been amended as follows:

13. (amended) The method according to claim 9 further defined as being carried out on a breath-by-breath basis.

Claim 26 has been amended as follows:

A4
26. (amended) The method according to claim 21 further defined as carrying out the method on a breath-by-breath basis.

Please add the following claims:

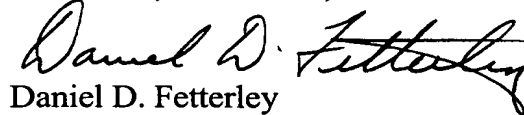
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67. The method according to claim 3 further including the step of using the value obtained in step (i) to determine the functional cardiac output (FCO) of the subject using a non-differential form of the Fick equation.

68. The method according to claim 4 further including the step of using the value obtained in step (i) to determine the functional cardiac output (FCO) of the subject using a non-differential form of the Fick equation.

69. The method according to claim 5 further including the step of using the value obtained in step (i) to determine the functional cardiac output (FCO) of the subject using a non-differential form of the Fick equation.

Respectfully submitted,

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